VCR 9/6/6 NFHP draft

(Rev. 10-90) NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative atoms on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Nome of December		_
1. Name of Property		
historic name Pleasant View other names/site number VDHR 009-0207		
2. Location		
2. Location		
street & number 5050 Bellevue Road city or town Forest		not for publication <u>N/A</u> vicinity X
state Virginia code VA county Bedford	code <u>019</u>	Zip <u>24551</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professi propertyX_ meets does not meet the National Register Conationally statewide _X_ locally. (See continuation should be continuation of the continuation of	onal requirements set forth riteria. I recommend that thi eet for additional comment Date	in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the s property be considered significants.)
comments.)		
Signature of commenting or other official	Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau		
4. National Park Service Certification		
I. hereby certify that this property is: entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.		
determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.	Signature of Keepe	r
determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register other (explain):	Date of Action	

U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service

other <u>wood</u>

Pleasant View Bedford County, VA

5. Classification		
Ownership of Property (Check as ma	any boxes as apply)	
X private		
public-local		
public-State		
public-Federal		
•		
Category of Property (Check only on	ne box)	
X building(s)		
district		
site		
structure		
object		
3		
Number of Resources within Proper	·tv	
Contributing Noncontributing		
31buildings		
5 1 Total		
Number of contributing resources prev	viously listed in the National Register 0	
	viously listed in the National Register <u>0</u>	ole property listing) N/A
	viously listed in the National Register _0 ng (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multip	ole property listing.) <u>N/A</u>
		ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property listi		ole property listing.) <u>N/A</u>
Name of related multiple property listi 6. Function or Use	ng (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multip	ole property listing.) <u>N/A</u>
Name of related multiple property listi 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories f	ng (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multip	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property listi 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic	ng (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiput of a	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property listi 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories for Cat: Domestic Domestic	ng (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multip	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property listi 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic	ng (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiput of a	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property listi 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Domestic Funerary	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property listi 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Domestic Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Funerary)	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingcemetery from instructions)	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property lists 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Domestic Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Cat: Domestic Domestic Cat: Domestic Cat: Domestic Cat: Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic	from instructions) Sub: single dwelling secondary structure cemetery from instructions) Sub: single dwelling secondary structure cemetery	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property lists 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Domestic Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic	from instructions) Sub:single dwelling cemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwelling secondary structure cemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwelling secondary structure	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property lists 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Domestic Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Cat: Domestic Domestic Cat: Domestic Cat: Domestic Cat: Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic	from instructions) Sub: single dwelling secondary structure cemetery from instructions) Sub: single dwelling secondary structure cemetery	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property lists 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Domestic Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic	from instructions) Sub:single dwelling cemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwelling secondary structure cemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwelling secondary structure	ole property listing.) N/A
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Functions) Cat: Domestic Functions Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Functions) Cat: Domestic Domestic Functions Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Functions)	from instructions) Sub:single dwelling cemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwelling secondary structure cemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwelling secondary structure	ole property listing.) N/A
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Domestic Functions) Current Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Functions) Cat: Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Functions 7. Description	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingcemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingcemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery	ole property listing.) N/A
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Functions) Cat: Domestic Functions Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Functions) Cat: Domestic Domestic Functions Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Functions)	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingcemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingcemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery	ole property listing.) N/A
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Domestic Functions) Current Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Functions) Cat: Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Functions 7. Description	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery attegories from instructions)	ole property listing.) N/A
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Functions) Cat: Domestic Functions Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Funerary) Cat: Domestic Domestic Funerary 7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories of Domestic Funerary)	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery attegories from instructions)	ole property listing.) N/A
6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Functions) Cat: Domestic Functions Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Domestic Funerary) Cat: Domestic Domestic Funerary 7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories of Domestic Funerary)	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery ategories from instructions) Revival	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property listi 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Domestic Funerary Current Functions (Enter categories of Cat: Domestic Domestic Domestic Domestic Funerary 7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories of Classical Revival; Greek of Materials (Enter categories from instrict Categories of Catego	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery ategories from instructions) Revival	ole property listing.) N/A
Name of related multiple property lists 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories of Cat:	from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery from instructions) Sub:single dwellingsecondary structurecemetery ategories from instructions) Revival	ole property listing.) N/A

NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service

Pleasant View Bedford County, VA

OMB No. 1024-4018

8. Statement of Significance
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property fo National Register listing)
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns o our history.
B B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.
Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a grave. X D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object or structure F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) Architecture
Period of Significance <u>ca. 1840-1956</u>
Significant Dates <u>ca. 1840</u>
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)n/a
Cultural Affiliationn/a
Architect/Builder unknown
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
9. Major Bibliographical References
Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.) Previous documentation on file (NPS)
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
Primary Location of Additional Data

NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-4018 (Rev. 10-90) **U. S. Department of the Interior Pleasant View National Park Service** Bedford County, VA _X_ State Historic Preservation Office ___ Other State agency ___ Federal agency ___ Local government ___ University Other Name of repository: <u>VA Department of Historic Resources</u> 10. Geographical Data Acreage of Property 18.14 acres **UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet) Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing 1 17 644828 4134391 2 17 645199 4134578 3 17 645092 4134797 4 17 644858 4134310 See continuation sheet. Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) **Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) 11. Form Prepared By Michael J. Pulice, Architectural Historian Organization: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Roanoke Region _date August 2006 street & number: 1030 Penmar Ave SE telephone 540-857-7586 city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24013 Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: **Continuation Sheets** A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location. A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. **Photographs** Representative black and white photographs of the property. **Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Panarwark Poduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for ambiguitions to the National Pagister of Historic Places to nomin

telephone <u>540-586-7091</u>

zip code 24121

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Section 7 Page 1

city or town Forest

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

state VA

name <u>C. Raine and Bettie Macon R. Pettyjohn</u>

street & number 5050 Bellevue Rd.

(8-86)
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

7. Summary Description

The historic farm known as Pleasant View, in the Bellevue area of rural Bedford County, Virginia, is the site of an elegant brick mansion built in c.1840 for William C. Leftwich, a wealthy planter. The house and surrounding land was acquired by Dr. Granville L. Brown in 1855, after Leftwich's death. Dr. Brown is buried in a cemetery not far from the house. The house is rectangular in plan, two stories tall, with symmetrical five-bay façade and double-pile, central hall plan. It is designed mainly in the Classical Revival style, but with many features that were associated with the Georgian and Greek Revival styles. Distinguishing exterior features include front doors on both the first and second floors, plastered recessed panels between the floor levels, walls of exceptionally well-made bricks, large windows with heavy wood lintels and paterae cornerblocks, and atypical side-gable roof with wood cornice. Interior features include paneled doors and jambs, plaster cornices, handsome carved mantels, marbleized wood baseboards, a number of chimney presses, intact hearths and well-preserved pine flooring.

Narrative Description

Pleasant View is located between the towns of Bedford and Lynchburg, on the west side of Bellevue Road (Rt. 643), on the north side of Elk Creek, in northwestern Bedford County. The small complex of domestic structures and the cemetery are located on a wooded lot of nearly four acres, sited within a cleared parcel of about 18 acres.

The house is rectangular in plan, measuring roughly 30 feet by 48 feet. The five-bay front elevation faces south, and has a one-story front porch with a balustraded deck roof, dating to the early-mid twentieth century. The porch has paired Doric pillars flanking the entryway and pilasters against the house wall. It is somewhat crude stylistically, and modern looking for the house. The original porch was probably similar to that of nearby Terrace View (009-0190), thought to have been the inspiration for Pleasant View. Terrace View's original porch is also now gone, but photos of it survive. It was a one-story porch of combined classical and Victorian styles that spanned the length of the façade, with a deck roof and Chippendale balustrade supported by what appear to be columns of the Composite Order. Between each column was ornate scrollwork forming something of an arch, giving the porch a somewhat arcaded appearance. The porch floor was supported by brick piers. Ghost marks on Pleasant View's façade confirm that it had a full-length porch of the same proportions.

The main front and rear entrances of the house have double doors, each with five raised panels arranged vertically, and multi-light transoms with delicate muntins intersecting at right angles.

Section 7 Page 2

(8-86) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

There is another original door on the east side of the house. It is a 5-panel, single-leaf door with an identical lighted transom. Above each opening are robust wood lintels and flanking cornerblocks with paterae. Windows are six-over-six double-hung wood sash. Most windows have louvered shutters that appear to be original. On the principal façade are wooden panels between the first story windows and second story windows. With the exception of the doors and shutters, all exterior woodwork is painted a cream color. There are two brick interior chimneys at each end of the house. The roof is lined with a wooden box cornice. Beneath the kitchen and dining room is an original partial basement. There louvered openings with lintels and cornerblocks venting the basement on the front and rear elevations. There is a late-twentieth-century, one-story, shed-roofed, frame addition on the east end of the house in which there is a small room and a screened-in porch. The other addition, to the rear elevation, is a very small, one-story, with one-room and a shed roof. It is largely unobtrusive but obscures the original rear entryway. No new window or door apertures have been opened within the masonry structure--all are part of the original design.

The house's structural system is composed of a foundation and walls of dark red, sand-molded, handmade brick, laid up in Flemish bond on the front (south) elevation and east elevation, and five-course American (or common) bond on the west side and rear. This suggests that historically the driveway approached the house from the southeast, as it does today. The masonry joints are overhand-struck and penciled with white lead in oil. The original reddish-tan lime mortar is very much intact except for a few small, weathered areas, which have been properly repointed. There are two interior brick bearing walls—one on each side of the central hall. Each is three bricks—about 13 inches thick. The roof of the house is covered with painted, hand-crimped, standing-seam sheet metal.

The rooms of the house are divided unevenly from front to back, the front rooms being the largest. The interior has painted plaster walls and ceiling, painted trim, and the original tongue-and-groove, random-width pine floors throughout. The mantels have quirked ovolos and horizontal panels with applied flat Greek panel moldings, which were common from the 1830s to the 1860s. They are wooden versions of marble mantels, particularly the blue marble mantels made in Philadelphia and sold up and down the east coast in the early 19th century. The overmantels are plastered. To one side or the other of most of the eight fireplaces are tall chimney presses that begin at floor level and rise to a height of seven feet or more. The dining room press is divided into upper and lower parts, each with a set of paneled folding doors. The lower section rises to a height of about two feet above the floor and its doors have two shortened panels, while the much taller upper sections have 5 panels each, of normal proportions. The press doors retain their original wood knobs.

Section 7 Page 3

(8-86) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

The staircase rises along the east wall of the central hall to a landing, from which they continue up a short flight to the second floor. It has a sleek walnut handrail supported by plain, square-cross-section balusters placed two to a step, and delicate turned Tuscan colonettes for newel and corner posts. The stair risers retain their black and white marbleizing, and the treads are original untreated pine. The understair is treated with multiple recessed panels. All of the heavy, wood interior doors of the house are original, with multiple panels arranged in a few different configurations.

Stylistically, Pleasant View does not fit neatly into a specific category. In general form it is a traditional, perfectly symmetrical Georgian house, not unlike many American houses from the mid-late 18th century. On the facade, the panels between the floor levels demonstrate the influence of the Adamesque or Federal style. In higher-style examples, these panels are often embossed with swags or other detailing. The window and door lintels with cornerblocks decorated with paterae suggest a more refined Neo-classical influence first seen domestically in the early 19th century. The house interior features very conservative use of trim. The woodwork has Greek-style moldings, most adapted from the works of Asher Benjamin, namely his *Practical House Carpenter* (1830). *Practice of Architecture* (1833) and *Builder's Guide* (1839), all of which were widely used in Virginia. The design of Pleasant View's door transoms appear to be rendered from that publication, as are the vertical and horizontal arrangements of panels on doors and jambs, and the architraves around them, found throughout the house. Thus the many stylistic influences found in Pleasant View run the gamut from eighteenth-century Georgian and Federal to nineteenth-century Classical and Greek Revival.

Secondary Resources

There is a one-story, one-room, board-and-batten building, measuring fourteen by twelve feet, with a front gable roof, and no windows in the backyard of the house. It is the closest ancillary structure to the house, about 50 feet off of the northeast corner of the house. No longer in use, it is probably a smokehouse constructed in the late 19th century. Some 50 -60 feet east of the smokehouse is a one-story, one-room, board-and-batten building, measuring 16 feet by 16 feet. with a stone chimney on the west end. The existing structure, constructed in the late 19th century, is the remaining half of a "saddlebag" kitchen/quarters building that consisted of two (probably identical) frame sections sharing the same stone chimney between them. The existing chimney, measuring 7 feet, 2 inches wide, has fireboxes on both sides. About 30 feet to the south of the smokehouse is the subterranean cistern, dating to the mid-late 19th century which has brick walls and a vaulted brick ceiling. The two buildings and the cistern date from the period of significance and are considered contributing resources for the purposes of this nomination. The cistern is

Section $\underline{7}, \underline{8}$ Page $\underline{4}$

(8-86)
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

identified as a structure rather than a building in the resource count. Two hundred feet west of the house is a small cemetery surrounded by a stone wall with a square footprint. Within it is the grave of Dr. Granville Brown, 1813-1876, marked with a weathered gravestone. The cemetery is considered a contributing site for the purposes of this nomination. There is also a non-contributing outbuildings between the main house and the cemetery.

8. Statement of Significance

Summary

The heart of the historic farm known as Pleasant View, Virginia, is the elegant brick manor house erected ca. 1840. It is located between the cities of Bedford and Lynchburg, in northwestern Bedford County. Overall, the house is best described as Classical Revival style, but it possesses many features associated with the popular Greek Revival style of the time. It is very similar to nearby Terrace View, which is believed to have been built by close relatives of Pleasant View's owners. The two stately homes were referred to historically as "sister houses." Together, the houses represent the height of the domestic Classical Revival style in provincial Bedford County during the midnineteenth century. While Terrace View is somewhat more architecturally detailed, Pleasant View is today the better preserved of the two houses and is one of the best-preserved historic homes in the region. The landscape surrounding the house also remains quite intact. Several domestic structures survive from the 19th century including a servant quarter, smokehouse and brick cistern. One of the early owners, Dr. Granville Brown, is buried in the stone-walled cemetery.

Justification of Criteria

Pleasant View is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture because of its quality of design and workmanship, and rarity of form. The plan, massing, decorative elements of the house, especially its interior treatments, make it nearly identical to Terrace View, built for John Calloway, located a short distance to the east. As such, it possesses an amalgamation of design features unlike other houses in the region. Pleasant View is, without question, the better preserved of the two houses. Because of its exceptionally unaltered condition, the period of significance, beginning ca.1840, is brought forward to 1956.

Section 8 Page 5

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

OMB No. 1024-0018

Continuation Sheet

Acknowledgements

Individuals who provided information or assistance in preparing this nomination are Mr. and Mrs. C. Raine Pettyjohn, Calder Loth, John Kern, and Jean McRae of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and Elaine Powers, Director of Library Services at the Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Historical Background

Little is known about William C. Leftwich, for whom Pleasant View appears to have been erected, except that he was from a very prominent Bedford County family, and that he himself amassed a vast personal estate including land holdings of more than 1000 acres in the Big Otter River and Elk Creek drainages of the northeastern part of the county. County land tax books show that in 1848 he owned 1080 acres on Elk Creek and buildings on a 311-acre Elk Creek tract, 12 miles northeast of the courthouse, valued at \$2000. He owned an additional tract in the Hickory Forest area (258 acres). The 1850 census reveals that Leftwich owned 42 slaves in the county. In 1852, he held 1337 acres of land in the area and the house with its dependencies, which had increased in value to \$3000. The increase in value appears to have been due to inflation rather than improvements. The combined value of the land and buildings was assessed at \$15,993, or \$12 per acre. Leftwich died in 1855, and his estate was broken into smaller tracts and sold at public auction later that year. The buildings stayed with a 518-acre tract on Elk Creek, which was purchased by Dr. G. L. Brown for \$22.90 per acre.²

Granville L. Brown was born Sept. 18, 1813 to a fairly prominent family in Bedford County. His parents were Rueben S. and Elizabeth McGhee Brown who came to Bedford County from the Carolinas ca. 1800. At age 25 (in 1840), Granville may have been off studying in medical school, because he does not appear in the U.S. population census of Virginia.³

In December, 1845, Dr. Brown was among several men appointed to represent Bedford County at the Education Convention in Richmond.⁴ By 1848, Granville and his siblings had inherited 293 acres from their deceased father, 242 of which were on Elk Creek, 9 miles east of the courthouse in the town of Bedford, then called Liberty. None of the acreage had buildings of any value, according to the county's land tax books, nor would they, at least through 1857.⁵

In 1850, Brown is listed in the census as a doctor of medicine, with his wife Eliza, age 21, whom he married on February 21, 1848. They had no children. The 1850 agricultural census shows that Brown was also engaged in farming, with 400 improved acres and 330 unimproved acres valued **Section 8** Page 6

(8-86) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

included 500 bushels of wheat, 750 bushels of corn, 450 bushels of oats, and 3000 pounds of tobacco. Despite his ownership of property, he was not taxed for any buildings, indicating that he and Eliza did not reside in their own house.⁶

Elizabeth "Eliza" C. Calloway Brown was born into two of the county's wealthiest and most prominent families. Her father was John Calloway (c.1807-1865), son of William, and her mother was Lucinda Saunders (born c.1809), daughter of Colonel David Saunders. Dr. Brown's medical education and qualifications are not known. Although not unusual, his name is not found in the American Medical Society records dating back to 1804. The 1850 U.S. census listed 27 physicians practicing in Bedford County. This equated to only one doctor for every 892 people in the county. While most graduated from well-established medical schools, there was no official examination for physicians in Virginia, and no approval process locally. Anyone could practice medicine. In Bedford County, 29 percent of those practicing in 1850 did not have the "authority of a diploma."

Dr. Brown did well financially and became known throughout the area as a lover of fine horses. In 1858 one of his horses won a prize for "best blooded horse" at a Lynchburg fair. He was also involved in politics for a number of years. In early December 1859, the *Daily Virginian*, a Lynchburg newspaper, reported Dr. Brown to be one of five men appointed to a committee charged with preparing a business agenda for a meeting, at which "vigilance committees" would be appointed, and to discuss a plan by which local merchants were to furnish the local marketplace with "goods neither manufactured in or imported through a non-slave holding state." The committees were also to help rid the county and the town of Liberty (now the City of Bedford) of "suspicious characters." At the time, Brown was one of Bedford County's representatives to Virginia's House of Delegates. Formerly a member of the Whig Party, he had been elected to the House of Delegates in 1857 as a member of the American Party. ¹⁰

The 1860 agricultural census shows that the Browns continued to prosper, and with 445 improved acres, were cultivating 11 percent more area than ten years earlier. The farm remained highly productive, and its value had inflated three-fold from \$9.58 per acre in 1850, to \$29.35 per acre. On the farm, which included an additional 100 unimproved acres, were 8 horses, 9 "milch" cows, 6 oxen, 200 other cattle, 32 sheep, and 120 swine. They had 15,000 pounds of tobacco, 1500 bushels each of wheat and corn, and 700 bushels of oats. Laboring on the property were 34 slaves in equal numbers of males and females, their ages ranging from 1 year to 65 years. The 1860 population census shows Dr. Brown, age 45, wife Elizabeth C., age 31, John C. Brown, age 1, Rose Ella Calloway, age 9, and James Ellis, 30, overseer. Brown's personal estate was valued at \$31,000.

Section 8 Page 7

At a public auction on April 11, 1855, Dr. Brown acquired part of recently deceased William C. Leftwich's estate, consisting of 518 acres on Elk Creek, 12 miles northeast of the courthouse, for

(8-86) United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

\$22.90 an acre. For some reason the deed to the parcel was not transferred until 1860, and was not recorded in the deed books until 1862. In fact, Dr. Brown was not taxed for the parcel through 1862. The county land tax books for 1863 and 1864 have been lost or destroyed, but in 1865, ten years after Brown purchased the property, the 518-acre tract finally appears under his name in the land tax books, with buildings on it valued at \$4000, representing Pleasant View manor and its earliest dependencies. Incidentally, John Calloway's similar house, the nearby Terrace View, was also assessed at \$4000.¹³

Sadly, Eliza Brown died in the early 1860s, while still in her early 30s, yet Dr. Brown remained close to the Calloway and Saunders families. ¹⁴ Eliza's first cousin on her mother's side, Lucy E. Saunders (born c.1837), became Brown's second wife on December 6, 1865. ¹⁵ Born in neighboring Campbell County, Lucy was the daughter of David Saunders, Jr., who, according one oral tradition, built Pleasant View as a wedding present for the couple. It is said to have been Lucy's desire that her new house resemble her Uncle John Calloway's ca. 1840 house, Terrace View, which she had loved since her childhood. ¹⁶ This story might seem plausible enough given that Dr. Brown was not taxed for the buildings before 1863 at the earliest; and it is remarkably similar, both inside and out, to Calloway's house, constructed a quarter century earlier. On the other hand, the two houses are simply too similar for them to have been built a quarter century apart, and stylistically, Pleasant View is much more in-line with an 1840 date than a 1865 date. Moreover, it has already been established that William C. Leftwich owned buildings of the same value as Terrace View on his Elk Creek lands in the 1840s, well before Dr. Brown acquired part of Letwich's estate. Furthermore, the name "Dr. Brown" appears next to a house in the area of Pleasant View on the Gilmer Civil War map of Bedford County, drawn in 1864. ¹⁷

Further evidence that Pleasant View was constructed ca. 1840, rather than in the 1860s as one tradition places it, is physical in nature. The timbers in the house, e.g., floor joists, are vertically sawn rather than circular sawn, but by 1850 the vast majority of wood building materials were sawn by steam powered saws with circular blades. Even more convincing support for the ca. 1840 construction date has resulted from a comparison of Pleasant View's bricks with a brick recovered from Terrace View. The bricks from both houses, all of which are hand-molded and clamp-fired, are so similar in terms of dimensions, texture, color and other aspects, that the can be said with some confidence to have been manufactured by the same brick maker. Most importantly, all of the bricks are "frogged," meaning they have deep indentions in the undersides of the bricks. Published studies by the author demonstrate that the shapes and dimensions of "frogs" in handmade bricks vary a great deal from brick maker to brick maker, providing persuasive

Section 8 Page 8

evidence that the identity of a brickmaker can often be derived by comparing frogged bricks. Frogs are formed by a piece of wood called a "kick" fixed to the bottom of a brick mold or molding palette. The method by which the kick is fastened by each brick maker is also often

(8-86)
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

idiosyncratic. In the case of both Terrace View bricks and Pleasant View bricks, the kicks are fastened exactly the same way—with a single countersunk screw at the center.

The 1870 census shows Lucy, age 33, and the couple having 2 children in their home: John W. Brown, age 12, and Annie Lee Brown, less than one year old. ¹⁹ In any case, Dr. Brown died on May 25, 1876 at the age of 63, and is buried in the small cemetery near the house. ²⁰ Many years later Lucy lost the land due to mounting debt, conveying it to trustees Robert Quarles and P. L. Saunders. Finally, in October of 1904 the house and property were sold at auction to Lizzie Lowry and Fannie Brown. They sold it in 1909 to the May family, who held it until 1962, when L.P. and Katie Nunn acquired it. The Nunns retained the property until 1978 when Dr. John and Susan Wenger purchased it. The current owners, Mr. and Mrs. C. Raine Pettyjohn, have owned, occupied and meticulously cared for the house and grounds since 1994. ²¹

Genealogical Note

Granville's brother, Spotswood Brown (b. 1809) achieved some status as well, appearing in *Hardesty's Personal Histories of Bedford County*. Spotswood served the county as deputy sherriff for several years during the 1840s. Through the years he became an extensive landholder, and by 1884 had accumulated more than 900 acres. He named one of his sons Granville (b.1851) after his brother. ²²

Endnotes

- 1. Calder Loth, Senior Architectural Historian, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, personal communication, September 28, 2006.
- 2. Bedford County Circuit Court, Deed Book 42, pages 58-60.
- 3. Marriage records for Bedford County; U.S. population Census.
- 4. W. Harrison Daniel, Bedford County, Virginia, 1840-1860, 182-183.
- 5. General Index to Deeds, Bedford County, and Land Tax Books for Bedford County.
- 6. Interestingly, Brown could not be found in the census slave schedules. The slave schedules for Bedford Co. for 1850 are extremely difficult to read, but his name was not found despite careful searching; Land Tax Books for Bedford County.
- 7. Marriage records for Bedford County.

Section 8, 9 Page 9

- 8. Hafner, Arthur Wayne, *Directory of Deceased American Physicians*, 1804-1929, Chicago: American Medical Association, 1993.
- 9. Daniel, 207.
- 10. Daniel, 33, 61.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

- 11. U.S. Agricultural Census for Bedford County, 1860, 357.
- 12. 1860 U.S. Census, Bedford County, northern district, population, page 364, slave schedules, page 20.
- 13. Bedford County Circuit Court, Deed Book 42, pages 58-60.
- 14. Brown is individually mentioned several times in the will of John Calloway.
- 15. Bedford County Marriage Records.
- 16. Wenger, Sarah, Oral tradition recorded in student paper, 1980s, 1.
- 17. There were two iterations of the 1864 map. One reads "Brown" and the other reads "Dr. Brown."
- 18. See Pulice, Michael J., "Machines for Making Bricks in America, 1800-1850." *The Chronicle of the Early American Industries Association*, June, 2006, 53-58; and "Unraveling the Benjamin Deyerle Legend," *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture XII*, University of Tennessee Press, 2005, 32-48.
- 19. There is a discrepancy between the 1865 marriage record and the 1870 census regarding Lucy's age. The marriage record gives Lucy's age as 39. Dr. Brown's age is probably correct here but was 2 years off in the 1850 census.
- 20. Gravestone, Pleasant View.
- 21. Wenger, 1-3. Bettie Pettyjohn, personal communication, July, 2006.
- 22. "A History of Bedford County," reprinted from the 1884 Edition of *Hardesty's Historical* and *Geographical Encyclopedia*.

9. Bibliography

General Index to Deeds, Bedford County.

Bedford County Deed Book 42, page 58-60.

Bedford County Land Tax Books, 1838-1865.

Marriage records for Bedford County, 1848, 1865.

Calloway, John. Last will and testament, 1861. Bedford County Will Book 18, p. 454.

Section 9 Page 10

Carter, Nora A. "Terrace View," Works Progress Administration, VA Historical Inventory, 1937. Daniel, W. Harrison. *Bedford County, Virginia, 1840-1860: The History of the Upper Piedmont in the Late Antebellum Era*. Privately printed, 1985.

Hafner, Arthur Wayne, Directory of Deceased American Physicians, 1804-1929, Chicago:

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

American Medical Association, 1993.

"A History of Bedford County," reprinted from the 1884 Edition of *Hardesty's Historical and Geographical Encyclopedia*.

Lee, Anne Carter. Survey forms: "Terrace View" (009-0190) and "Pleasant View" (009-0207), Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, 1974.

Loth, Calder, Senior Architectural Historian, Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Personal communication, September 28, 2006.

Parker, Lula Jeter. The History of Bedford County, Virginia. Bedford, Va, 1954.

Pettyjohn Bettie Macon. Personal communication, 2005, 2006.

U.S. Census Manuscripts, Population, Bedford County, Va. 1840 Sixth Census, 1850 Seventh Census, 1860 Eighth Census, 1870 Ninth Census,

U.S. Census Manuscripts, Slave Population, Bedford County, Va. 1850 Seventh Census, 1860 Eighth Census.

U.S. Census, Agriculture, 1850, 1860.

Wenger, Sarah. Student paper, 1980s.

Section 10, Photographs Page 11

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated parcel is shown on the accompanying county GIS-produced map.

(8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Pleasant View Bedford Co. Virginia

Continuation Sheet

The parcel tax identification number is 114 A 109A.

Boundary Justification

The nominated parcel boundary is corresponds exactly to that of tax parcel 114 A 109A.

Photographs

Pleasant View (DHR #009-0207)

Bedford County, Virginia

Date: October 2005 and August 2006

Photographer: Michael Pulice

Digital Images stored at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources in Richmond, Virginia

- 1. House, principal (south) facade.
- 2. House, rear and west elevations.
- 3. House interior, from central hall into parlor.
- 4. House interior, parlor (front-west corner room, first floor).
- 5. House interior, dining room (front-east corner room, first floor).
- 6. House interior, front-east bedroom (second floor).
- 7. House interior, front-west bedroom (second floor).
- 8. House interior, stair hall, facing rear of house.
- 9. Smokehouse, facing north.
- 10. Cemetery, facing southwest.
- 11. Terrace View and Pleasant View bricks, side by side for comparison.

